

**City of Milwaukee Health Department
Community Strengths and Themes Subcommittee**

September 4, 2007 Meeting

9:00 – 11:00am

Wheaton Franciscan Health Care

3250 S. 18th St

Milwaukee, WI 53215

Participants: Kathy Blair, Health Department; Diane Chamness, Chamness Group; Olivia Marshall, Chamness Group; Mardi Charnitz, Interfaith Older Adult Programs; Angel Rodriguez, Housing Authority City of Milwaukee; Bob Waite, 211 Impact; David Frazer, Center for Urban Population Health; Oscar Rincones, Health Department; Tracy Hefley, Health Department; Raquel Filmanowicz, Health Department, Jen Brown, Wheaton Franciscan Health Care; Amanda Schultz, Health Department

Introduction and review committee tasks

Everyone went around and introduced themselves and the organizations that they represented. The stages of the MAPP assessment were reviewed and it was indicated that the subcommittee was still in the first, preparation phases of their assessment.

The goal for the meeting was to determine the most effective approaches to gather information, determine the focus of the assessment (geographic vs issue based) and to identify established organizations which could be utilized for collecting data.

After decisions were made, the committee would move forward to assess community concerns, perceptions about quality of life, and map community assets.

It was indicated that Chamness would lead the majority of the data collection, compile results, as well as summarize key findings. Committee members were reminded that the group's actions were aimed at community involvement and empowerment.

Assess what has already been done: presentation of previous work

Subcommittee members were provided with a handout of some key, broad assessments that have been completed in the past few years, breaking down and visually displaying the major themes that arose from each assessment. Amanda reported that those themes reported with the most prevalence were: increase access and number of resources in neighborhoods & community (4), improve education (3), alcohol & sobriety issues (3), personal safety & violence/ anger management skills (3), improve family economics (2), increase home ownership (2), help families build healthy and positive relationships (2), home visiting and mentoring services (2), chronic disease management (2), teen pregnancy (2).

Other assessments that were presented were: Truth be Told teen pregnancy prevention report, Oral Health in Children report, Health Information Improvement (by CUPH?), Homelessness and Poverty report, and the CHIMC assessment. Bob Waite from 211 Impact discussed the potential for using the 211 database to create reports about the types

of services requested and distribution of calls by zip code area. The organization currently collects information on gender, age, family size, ethnicity and zip code. Over 300,000 calls are received each year and a report with trend analysis for the last 5 years is planned to be released in 2008. David Frazer of CUPH discussed numerous projects the center is involved in and the possibility of collaboration.

Moving Forward

It was decided that the community strengths and themes portion of the assessment would be geographically based, with potential additional focus on themes highlighted by the community.

The subcommittee also decided to use a combination of windshield surveys, key informant interviews, focus groups, and surveys to collect data.

Windshield surveys and key informant interviews will be conducted by nursing students in the UWM and possibly Marquette community health courses. Kathy Blair will contact Mary Jo Baisch and Kelli Jones to confirm and iron out details. Kathy Blair will also create a standardized tool and grid (?) to send out to committee members for approval by September 14th, 2007. This tool will be used by all students to ensure data can be compared across zip code areas for all of Milwaukee.

Chamness Group will be responsible for setting up and conducting approximately 10 focus groups and surveys. Contacts for potential organizations will be provided by subcommittee members. A list of potential organizations was generated.

David Frazer of CUPH raised the question about how the information collected would be given back to community members. The subcommittee decided that all information would be posted on the committee's website for public access. It was also decided to ask community members for input on how to best share information that is produced.

The next meeting was set for October 17th following the main steering committee meeting at United Way. Subcommittee members were asked to send any information about community meetings already in existence to health department staff in order to set up focus groups.